

## Message Text

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 06724 310402Z

21

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FBOE-00 OC-06 CCO-00 A-01 /023 W

----- 085528

R 301522Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1400

UNCLAS BEIRUT 6724

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, ASEC, SY

SUBJECT: FIRE IN EMBASSY BASEMENT

AT APPROXIMATELY 0045 HRS. JULY 30, 1976 A FIRE BROKE OUT IN EMBASSY BASEMENT. SOURCE OF FIRE WAS 6 K.W. GASOLINE GENERATOR USED TO POWER MARINE GUARD DESK AND EMBASSY RADIO NET BASE STATION DURING NIGHT.

APPARENTLY SMALL LEAK IN GENERATOR'S GASOLINE FEED LINE IGNITED RESULTING IN DESTRUCTION OF GENERATOR, AND SOME ELECTRIC CABLE, AND FAIRLY EXTENSIVE SCORCHING OF BASEMENT WALLS. CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF ACRID SMOKE TRAVELLED TO ALL FLOORS OF EMBASSY. ALL PERSONNEL LIVING IN QHANCERY WERE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFIED AND LED TO SAFETY ON GROUND FLOOR. NO INJURIES OR NOTABLE DAMAGE REALIZED. FIRE INITIALLY DISCOVERED BY FSL MAURICE KHOURY WHO CURRENTLY LIVING IN CHANCERY AS DUTY ELECTRICIAN/GENERATOR REPAIRMAN. KHOURY CONTAINED THE FIRE AND CALLED FOR HELP.

FIRE WAS EXTINGUISHED BY MSG'S GEORGE WEDGEWORTH AND TIMOTHY PACHE WITHIN MATTER OF MINUTES.

QUICK AND DECISIVE ACTION ON PART OF THESE TWO GENTLEMEN, AT CONSIDERABLE PERSONAL RISK, PREVENTED FIRE FROM DEVELOPING INTO LETHAL BLAZE. EMBASSY BEIRUT WISHES TO COMMEND WEDGEWORTH AND PACHE AND REQUESTS DEPARTMENT BRING THEIR VIGILANCE AND PERSONAL COURAGE TO ATTENTION OF U.S. MARINE CORPS.

HUNT

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 15 SEP 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TEXTILES, AGREEMENTS, TARIFF CLASSIFICATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BEIRUT06724  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** D760296-0166  
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**Office:** ORIGIN EB  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** ENRG, ASEC, ETRD, EPAP, SY, SI, SN, US  
**To:** STATE  
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